

I CLAIM::

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ENTERED

6/12 (12)
L. Lewis
10-9-02

17 / 1. Electronic Commerce System for procuring goods/services by a number of users within an organization, from a number of vendors, comprising:

- A1
- (a) One Page electronic purchasing document which replaces individual paper and electronic purchase requisitions, purchase orders and vendors: acknowledgements, shipping notices, invoices, and statements; and performs their identical functions, traveling electronically from user to user;
 - (b) An electronic purchaser's system to introduce each One Page document to the system of serving these purchasing functions, and progressively moving the document to the participants, following each step to recognize actions completed, verifications completed, actions needed, and sending the document to the next action location, coupled with a time schedule for each document and a follow up system;
 - (c) a One Page template worksheet selected by the purchase originator when securing and preparing the one page document, to disclose justification of the purchase, possible backup data, and in the case of contract orders, information on contract dates, purchases to date and past performance;
 - (d) a purchaser's payment system activated by the operation of the One Page document, arranging payment to the vendor's bank, without individual participation;
 - (e) exclusive rights in the use of the forms contained herein, referred to as template forms, and to any other forms associated with the One Page document;
 - (f) use of a plurality of terminals, work stations, servers, Intranet and Internet programs necessary to perform these functions.

18 / 2. System as defined in claim 1, wherein a One Page document used to perform the functions of the system, is selected from a choice of three forms of purchasing and provides for all the needs of the different users, when prepared by the originator.

19/3. System as defined in claim 1, wherein during the progression of the One Page document through its functional steps, any changes found necessary will require the action of the originator, which is first processed, by the finder, through removing the dots shown for the present and previous action, thereby producing a template form, "Action Change Request", to secure explanations why changes are necessary, then, to be returned back into the system, in reverse sequence, for necessary action by the order originator;

20/4. System as defined in claim 1, wherein electronic signatures are required of purchaser's participating employees to acknowledge their actions completed, and will be thus shown to ease verification of the entire One Page document and assist the auditing functions

AI 21/5. System as defined in claim 1, wherein the total amount of the One Page document, including taxes, handling charges, etc. will be established at the outset, when the document is prepared, thereby having the correct amount for authorization approval vendor acceptance, and payment advice to the paying bank, without the usual need for a vendor's invoice, before arranging payment.

22/6. System as defined in claim 1, permits the vendor to acknowledge the order by inserting the vendor's invoice number in the One Page document, and Emailing it back to the purchaser's System, thereby avoiding any problems of the vendor not having a compatible electronic signature system

23/7. System as defined in claim 1, wherein the vendor attaches a bar code label to the outside of the order shipped, displaying the purchase document and invoice numbers, which will be used by the receiver to identify the One Page document for verification of receipt, thereby eliminating the usual shipping notice

24/8. System as defined in claim 1 permits the order receiver to use the One Page document for checking the items received, clicking the circle provided for each

item., thereby using the original One Page form to avoid any mistakes in identification of the order content.

25 9. System as defined in claim 1 requires the purchaser to prearrange terms of payment with the vendor, which is scheduled into the system, thereby permitting the purchaser to adjust payments to fit its cash flow needs, and without this the vendor would have no basis for being paid.

26 10. System as defined in claim 1 contains a section in the One Page document for the originator to enter the accounts to be charged for the items purchased, which is entered into the system to be held in suspense until the item is received as acknowledged, and charged to that account(s) with an accounts payable entry..

AI
Cont'd

11. System as defined in claim 1 permits the vendor to put a "stop" on the preparation and processing of the documents replaced by the system but continuing the use of the invoice number as identified with the One Page document, thereby saving substantial work and cost for the vendor.

12. System as defined in claim 1, provides a Purchase Worksheet choice for either fixed assets or expenses applicable to larger purchases which not only justify the purchase, but provides information on use of items replaced, depreciation reserves, writeoffs,, other purchases required, etc., with this worksheet made an addition to the One Page for internal use and fitted into a program for "other purchase actions", along with its use for auditing the One Page System

13. System as defined in claim 1, in initiating an order, provides a template form, "Purchase Options Selected (POS), secured by pressing this assigned keyboard key which provides several choices in selecting the right One Page form, and worksheet, and simplifying preparation of the One Page and worksheet forms, with reference to frequent vendors data and recent orders, and the sources to be needed in selecting the items to be ordered and their prices, shipping costs, etc.,

which will remain as an open window until all the necessary data for the Worksheet and One Page is secured, at which time a cursor will be clicked on the completion position, and the One Page is set up for processing by the System to the vendor, with the Worksheet being retained in the One Page file.. Both the POS and the uncompleted One Page will have a temporary number assigned, identifying it to the person handling the order, to control delays in processing, and backing up this system are vast amounts of accessible data on purchasing policies, purchase limits, idle equipment and excess supplies, and vendors and their products which permits any number of different supply programs, not considered part of our system. because their selection depends on the type and volume of purchases, intercompany relationships, and the convenience and benefits of each program, along with the frequency of new programs emerging

AM
Could

14. Systems as defined in claim 1, includes seventeen different management reports to assist and control the purchasing functions, at various points of time..

Harold F. Hynes

Oracle Takes Aim At Ariba, Commerce On

By Reuters

June 5, 2001 10:21 AM ET

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Oracle Corp. (ORCL.O) on Monday sought to boost its stake in the hotly contested e-procurement market with the announcement of a new software package which it says will get customers up and running in 30 days.

Oracle, the No. 2 software maker, said the move was aimed at increasing its share of the growing market for procurement software, which lets companies purchase so called indirect, or basic, goods and services over the Internet.

The market for procurement software is set to grow to \$16 billion by 2005 from \$5 billion in 2000, according to industry research firm International Data Corp.

Right now, the procurement sector is dominated by leading software firms Ariba Inc. (ARBA.O) and Commerce One Inc. (CMRC.O). But as the slowdown in the U.S economy continues, Oracle is hoping the opportunity for companies like Ariba will start to shrink as users look to more established firms, like Oracle, for an all round e-commerce package.

"Our belief is that Ariba and Commerce One are companies that became companies," Jeremy Burton, Oracle's vice president of global product and services marketing told Reuters. "But they only really solved a very small part of the procurement problem."

Burton said Oracle's new Procure-to-Pay offering goes beyond just allowing a company to place an order over the Web, which is all that Ariba and Commerce One do, he said.

"Buying goods is not just creating a requisition, it's also getting a purchase order number, sending that to the supplier and being able to receive the invoice, and ultimately pay," Burton said.

By contrast, Burton said the other e-procurement vendors only do the creation and approval of requisitions. "But any piece of the process that you want to do from there on in is extremely manual," he said.

ANALYST REACTION IS MIXED

Analysts were mixed in their reaction to the announcement.

"It's a great marketing tactic, but whenever companies make these claims, you're never sure whether they can deliver the software in the timeframe they're saying," said Brendan Barnicle, an analyst with Pacific Crest Securities.

Barnicle said that Oracle's message about integrating front and back office processes, which link orders from the Web to back end financial systems, would certainly score points over competitors such as Ariba or Commerce One.

Jon Ekoniak, an analyst with U.S. Bancorp Piper Jaffray, said he thought Oracle had a good chance of becoming a big name in the e-procurement space, especially given the recent misfortunes of firms like Ariba. In recent months, Ariba has been forced to cut a third of its workforce and report earnings well below Wall Street estimates amid a flagging U.S economy.

"Ariba has stumbled in the market which will certainly give Oracle an opportunity to step in, but I don't think it's going to be a huge standalone product like CRM," Ekoniak said, referring to Oracle's customer relationship management software.

Oracle's Procure to Pay is the second in a series of new software packages the company is offering in order to get companies up and running and saving money on their software investments as soon as possible. Already Oracle offers a fast install version of its front office, customer relationship management software, and Burton said others, in the financial, human resources and supply chain management software sectors, were to follow.

Procure to Pay costs around \$235,000 for the software, which includes all the necessary procurement, financial and payment applications, Burton said.

Oracle will host and manage the software on its premises and will take an additional \$5 fee for every transaction made using the software.

Those charges could mean that only larger clients will go for the offering, said Pierre Mitchell, an analyst with industry research firm AMR Research in Boston.

"Some of the larger clients running Ariba are processing over 100,000 purchase orders a year," Mitchell said. "So at five bucks a pop, that's an extra half a million a year."

OBJECTIONS AND REJECTIONS TO BE CORRECTED

OBJECTIONS:

Specification Objections

Drawings may not be included in specification.

Reference numbers aren't used.

Specifications don't conclude with a claim

Specifications don't provide antecedents

Claim Objections

Lines crowded and single spaced (replaced here)

REJECTIONS

Claim Rejections 35 USC 112

Fail to define invention per 35 U.S.C/ 112. 2nd paragraph

Fail to point out subject matter in claims

Claims too narrative and not structured

Claims not in one sentence form

Claim Rejections 35 USC 102

Anticipations by:

Barnes et al Pat.No.. No. 5 970,475, My Claims 1,2,4,5,6,8,15,16

Roach, et al., Pat. No. 5,583,759, My Claim 3

Brumley, et. Al. Intl. WO 99/10850, My Claim 7

Geer, Pat. No. 5,583,759, My Claim 9

Claim Rejections 35 USC 103

Unpatentable over:

Peters et. Al. Pat. No. 5,884,284 in view of Kuzma Pat. No. 5,771,355,

My Claims 10-14 (Obviousness rejection)

Examiner kindly recommends securing the services of a patent attorney to anticipate protecting my interests from possible prosecution procedures from others.

Harold D. Hyman

CORRECTIONS MADE OR NEEDED

Specification Objections

3. Drawings may not be included in the specifications. This includes forms and workflow charts.. Use of workflows in Specifications – Detailed Description, was intended to serve the requirements of “short and specific to describe the invention adequately” An examination of the patents sent me revealed the practice of further depth. I’m in the process of preparing this section, with references to the drawings, which can easily be placed in the front section of the application, as practiced by other inventors.

4. The point of concluding specifications with a claim is not clear. My claims seemed to follow the end of the specifications. Also, claims submitted not complying with 37 CFR 1.75. has no follow up unless it is item 5. Do my new claims correct this. I need your help.

5. Specifications failing to provide proper antecedent basis for claimed subject matter, with reference to “purchaser, vendor and bank, the document and these actions , the purchasing transactions and the delivery and the merchandise” Also other claims. -. baffle me. In changing the claims, as included here, are these still problems. Doesn’t the “Background” data cover antecedents. I need your help.

6. Format of the claims is objectionable. I apologize. See new format here.

7.Specifications not concluding with claims distinctly pointing out subject matter. What is the subject matter which is missing?. I need your help.

8. Claims 1-16 don’t properly define invention, and claim subject matter, to conform to 35 U.S.C. 112. Also, Lack of one sentence forms and improper format. Do the attached claims correct this? I need your help.

9-15 Claims rejected as anticipated, obviousness and unpatentable. “See following report, which should dismiss these rejections.

10. CLAIMS 1,2,4,5,6,8,15,16 ANTICIPATED BY BARNES ET AL

Rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) "A person shall be entitled to a patent unless-(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

My claims apply to a total purchasing system based on a One Page electronic purchasing document, and may include public domain programs or details, which may be described to provide full understanding of the total One Page System. (see 2nd criteria in page one) This total system is designed to replace and eliminate the usual purchasing procedures and forms used by the purchaser, including requisitioning items, securing approval, preparing the purchase order, securing confirmation, receiving the invoice, receiving a statement of invoices, receiving a shipping notice from the vendor, confirming receipt of the merchandise, and making payment to the vendor. Therefore the test of comparability with existing patents or practices is based on the introduction by others of a similar one page document to perform all of these functions, thereby eliminating all of these individual procedures and forms. The One Page System will materially reduce the \$25-\$300 prevalent systems cost per order, mentioned in Mr. Barnes' patent. The 2005 market for electronic purchasing systems has been estimated at \$16 billion dollars. "

Rejection of Claims 1,2,4,5,

Basis presented for Barnes Anticipation - an electronic computer system utilizing a business document, which sometimes takes on the form of an invoice see at least Abstract, column 4, lines 1-4, and which travels electronically to and between participants, purchaser, vendor and bank in ordering, purchasing, shipping, receiving and paying for merchandise secured by a purchasing organization from a vendor, and paying to the vendor's bank, providing quick reference for all participants, and use in auditing the purchasing transactions (see at least Abstract, Figure 8, column 1, lines 13, 14, column 11, lines 10,11, 16-22, column 25 lines 41-63), and in which electronic signatures are used to authenticate participants column 18, lines 62-65.

Response: Barnes' system applies to a quite different business than one proposed for my One Page application. His would be operated by a service bureau to electronically serve both buyers and sellers of goods and services, with emphasis on the supply chain side, for the vendor, providing a catalog service drawn from a number of vendors, for numerous purchasers, using an Automated Clearing House ACLH for a payment service. His service would charge the sellers and buyers for the quantity of transactions. It's basically a vendor's organization, setting up a system with the purchasers for the convenience of the vendor's system. My system is basically a single purchaser's system, worked out with the vendors to eliminate the purchasing forms and procedures, for both to benefit from, and replace them with one document which serves all their needs, traveling electronically from one action to another. Barnes' system continues to use the following forms with procedures:

15. Purchase Requisition (see figure 4e – creating a new requisition request)
16. Purchase Order (see Col. 8, line 49 – sends purchase order)
17. Order Acknowledgement (see Col 25, line 47 –and order acknowledgement)
18. Advance Shipping Notice (see Col 25, line 46 – document exchanged)
19. Sales Invoice (see Col. 4, lines 3,4, - after an invoice is issued to customer)
20. A Vendor's Statement must exist to summarize the invoices.

Note: The existence of all these forms with a lack of a single document to replace them, negates any comparability with my system having one form for all these functions. A common method of direct payments to a bank for a bank's customer is treated differently between the two systems. My One Page System is prepared to pay the amount due upon acknowledgement of receiving the merchandise. Barnes' system additionally requires awaiting and receiving the invoice, verifying its contents and inputting the amount due into the electronic system, before it is ready for payment.

The rejection references cited earlier will be described as "Rejection Basis", and responded to in the following section as they relate to the anticipated basis reported above

Rejection Basis – Abstract (see below)

[57]

ABSTRACT

An Electronic Commerce system enables corporate purchasers and suppliers to electronically transact for the purchase and supply of goods/services. The system includes three major hardware and software components: buyer, supplier and bank/administration. To enable suppliers to supply goods and services online and process electronic orders, several software components are used for operating a supplier processor server and a supplier catalog server. To enable corporate purchasers to purchase products and services online, preferably over the Internet, from suppliers, software is used for operating a customer server to which multiple users may log-on and access the supplier server. An Automated Clearing House (ACH) server may be used to interface with a bank's (ACH) systems. A service bureau that supplies the hardware and/or software components and assists to administer the system includes a transaction counter, which records transactions and charges the buyers and/or suppliers based on the number of purchase orders and/or invoices issued.

Although the present invention has been described in relation to particular embodiments thereof, many other variations, modifications and other uses will become apparent in those skilled in the art. It is preferred that the present intention be limited not by the specific disclosure herein, but by the scope of the appended claims.

Response: I find no evidence of a traveling business document, nor my shortcut method of arranging payment.

Rejection Basis - Col. 4, lines 1-4. (see below)

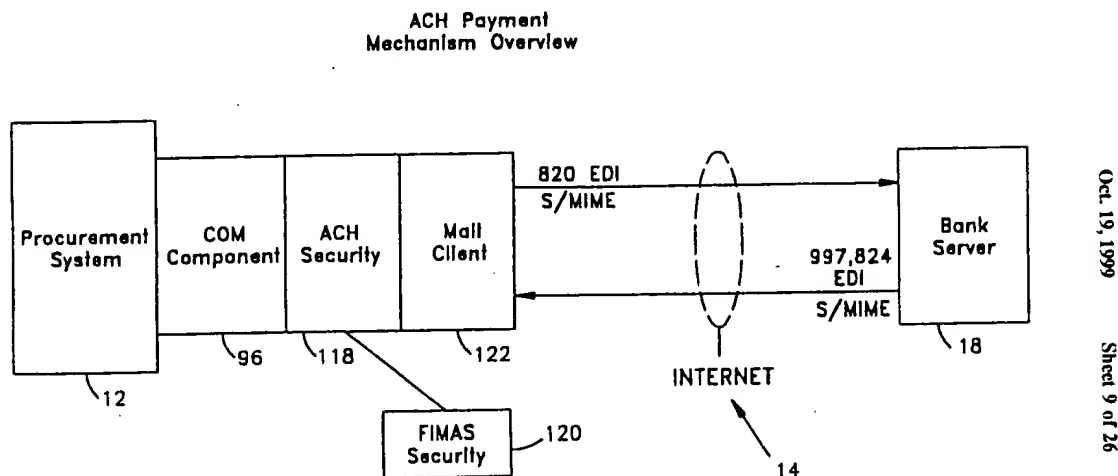
4

connection. Payments to the supplier by the customer organization may optionally be made through said bank server after the goods/services have been delivered to the user and an invoice has been issued to the customer organization.

Response: I find no evidence of a traveling business document, nor my shortcut method of arranging payment; My one page system doesn't require a vendor's invoice with necessary verifications.

Rejection Basis - Abstract – (See prior report and Response on Abstract)

Rejection Basis - Figure 8 (see below)



Response: I find no evidence of a traveling business document, nor my shortcut method of arranging payment.

Rejection Basis -: Col. 1, Lines 13,14 (see below)

plurality of users within a purchasing organization to pro- 10
cure goods/services from pre-arranged suppliers, consistent
with the level of authorization given to each user and enables
automated payments to the supplier by a bank after the
goods/services have been delivered.

Response:: I find no evidence of a traveling business document, similar to my One Page document, and representation of authorization to a bank to make automated payments to the supplier's account puts it in the realm of public domain, practiced by many..

Rejection Basis: Col. 11, lines 10-11, 16-22

The customer server has a distinct communications mod-
ule 96. This enables the customer server 34 to transmit 10
documents and receive documents over a variety of proto-
cols. The transport method currently used is a direct server

merce Server. The purchase order document that is sent from i 6
the customer server to a supplier is formatted to adhere to the
OBI (Open Buying on the Internet) specification. All other
documents are sent as per standard ANSI X.12 EDI speci-
fications. The method for instigating a transfer of a docu- 20
ment is via an HTTP POST operation to a waiting CGI
program at the supplier site. The CGI program will decode
the object and place the document as a text file ready for
integration into a supplier order entry system.

Response: I find no evidence of a traveling business document, nor my shortcut
method of arranging payment. .

Rejection Basis: Col. 25, lines 41-63.

All purchasing documents, such as purchase orders and
invoices, are exchanged electronically (via secure synchro-
nous connections) in Electronic Data Interchange (EDI)
format over the Internet. Documents are also encrypted to
ensure security. The documents to be exchanged, for 45
example invoices, advance shipping notices and order
acknowledgements (used to agree to any changes to an
order), are agreed to between buyers and suppliers to ensure
that companies receive documents appropriate to their spe-
cific purchasing or order processes. 50

Suppliers may receive and send the customer server
documents using a Transaction Gateway. Suppliers can
integrate the Transaction Gateway with their existing order
processing systems.

The customer server provides support for both desktop 55
delivery where requisitioners receive goods directly) and for
warehouse and dock deliveries with a goods inward com-
ponent to check goods in, raise queries about deliveries and
route the goods to the appropriate requisitioner. The cus-
tomer server links to the bank's existing systems to enable
secure electronic payment for goods using a corporate 60
purchasing card or using the bank's Automated Clearing
House (ACH). If required, companies can also pay using
their existing accounts payable systems.

We claim:

1. Electronic Commerce System for procuring goods/ 65
services by a plurality of users within a custom organization,
comprising

Response: I find no evidence of a traveling business document, nor my shortcut method of arranging payment.

Rejection Basis: Column 18, line 62-65

11. The Supplier's Server 40 decrypts the purchase order with its private key, and verifies the signature by decrypting it with the public key contained in the buyer's certificate contained in the PKCS #7.
- 65 12. The Supplier Server 40 stores the buyer's public key for use in encrypting messages back to the buyer.

Response: I find no evidence of a traveling business document, nor my shortcut method of arranging payment. My electronic signature claim is for its use by the purchaser's participants in the system rather than the signature's existence. Barnes' system only provides for an electronic signature on the purchase order. This is used solely for contractual purposes. It raises a question of authenticity as electronic signatures were not legal at the time that Barnes' patent was issued. The Federal Government approved these signatures before the date of my application. Electronic signatures are a basic part of my system and serve several functions. All of the six possible purchaser's actions requiring electronic signatures are contained in the One Page System, Each action can't be taken without approved signatures appear for each off the previous actions. When a purchase action is taken and signed for, the computer system automatically verifies that the approving person signing is qualified to sign by comparing the amount with authorization limits and authority for the type of purchase. Barnes' system can't properly do this because with shipping and taxes to be added to the invoice Barnes doesn't know whether the purchase is within authorizations before the invoice is received and this is after the information is needed. My system anticipates a total cost from the very beginning. My one page has a circle to be clicked for receiving each item ordered. If all the items aren't clicked, the receiver's signature won't be accepted by the computer for continuing in the system.and will be returned) Having all signatures on the one document

facilitates the security and audit functions. These are a few of the uses by the purchaser, made of the electronic signatures, for which it is claimed.

\\This concludes my responses to Rejects for my claims 1,2,4,5 related to Barnes' anticipations reported here previously. I believe you will find that Barnes's anticipations are not substantiated.

CLAIMS 6, 8 ANTICIPATED BY BARNES ET AL

Rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b)

Basis Presented for Barnes Anticipation

Barnes discloses purchaser paying the vendor only for the acceptable items receive (column 1, lines 11-14, column 27, Lines 1-5, column 28, lines 32-37, with computer instructing purchaser's bank to send payment to the vendor's bank, without any individuals participating.

Claim 6 pays only for acceptable merchandise received and sends report of payments sent to vendor.

Claim 8 has the One Page Purchase Document showing the full amount of the purchase when originated, and sets up a payment schedule, with the computer instructing the purchaser's bank to send this amount to the vendor's bank as scheduled, without any individuals participation.

Rejection Basis, Col. 1, lines 11-14 (see below)

plurality of users within a purchasing organization to pro- 10
cure goods/services from pre-arranged suppliers, consistent
with the level of authorization given to each user and enables
automated payments to the supplier by a bank after the
goods/services have been delivered.

Response: Barnes anticipates paying upon acceptable merchandise being received. This ignores time delays and verification needs, and computer input from vendor's invoice

Rejection Basis: Col. 27, lines 1-5

27

12. Electronic Commerce System as defined in claim 1,
wherein further comprising a bank server accessible by said
customer server through an Internet connection for payment
to said supplier for the procure goods/services upon receiv-
ing instructions to make payment by said customer server. 5

Response: Barnes refers to a bank server for payment to the supplier, which is a generalization of a system, yet it opens the door to our payment system. I have included direct deposits of purchaser payments into the vendor's bank

account in describing my claims. My application of the system was claimed to be anticipated by Barnes. However, this banking practice has been in use for many years, (example, Social Security), before Barnes' patent, and would be considered in the Public Domain. Consequently, Barnes could only use this practice as non proprietary to identify it as part of his total system. This would not exclude me from using it for the same purpose, which I have done. An exception would be if Barnes had a significant modification of the common usage which would precede a program which I have included in my claims. I do not find such a program. My system does have a unique feature in an automatic process of the instructions and amounts sent from the One Page Document to the bank, which is not available from Barnes' system, having to first receive and process the invoice from the vendor. This helps support my claim 16.

Barnes' automated payment to the supplier by a bank after the goods have been delivered includes intervening functions of receiving the invoice, confirming the items and figures, in the invoice, and putting the payment figures into the computer. This necessitates participation in the process.

Rejection Basis: Col. 28, lines 32-37, (see below)

22. Method as defined in claim 16, further comprising the step of paying the supplier directly from a bank by using the bank's automated clearing house (ACH) payment service
35 when the bank is instructed to make such payment by the customer organization.

Response: This just repeats Col.1 Lines 11-14, above

Conclusion: I see no justification for Barnes' use of the banking payment service as a single proprietary claim in opposition to my similar non proprietary use in claim 8.

15. CLAIM 3 ANTICIPATED BY ROACH ET AL

CLAIM 3

“An electronic control system serves to schedule the delivery of the merchandise on the basis of the requested delivery date, allowing time for delivery, and providing a supporting system for timing and content problems to be solved through an Electronic Action Change Request, coupled with an open tracking system which continually follows the time and completion of the several action steps, for possible awareness of delays and the need for corrective action.”

Basis Presented for Roach's Anticipation

Roach teaches an electronic control system that serves to schedule the delivery of the merchandise on the basis of the requested delivery date (figure 4e, column 5, lines 62-67, allowing time for delivery and providing a supporting system for timing and content problems, (figure 3c, column 7, lines 16-35) to be solved through an electronic action change request (column 15, lines 1-53) coupled with an open tracking system (column 17, lines 34-46 which continually follows the timing and completion of the several action steps (Figure 6, Item 600, for possible awareness of delays and the need for corrective action.

APPLICATION OF ROACH'S SYSTEM

His system applies to different business functions than my One Page system would relate to. Mine is designed to serve the purchasing functions of a business. His is designed to serve the sales functions of a special form of business. Difference in these functions create differences in scheduling and correcting problem, and the applications are not compatible, as demonstrated here.

Roach's system is designed for a business which sells items occupying a warehouse where customers enter the premises and move around selecting merchandise to purchase. At each point of purchase, a warehouse employee uses a hand held pen based sales transaction computer to record the customer's number, item, purchased, price and delivery arrangements, which can be picked up at the warehouse, or be delivered as a large item. The customer when finished purchasing goes to the pickup chosen, receives the merchandise, then goes to the cashier for payment, with the usual choices of cash, check or credit card. This is dissimilar to a business purchasing

procedure. In Roach's system there are no functions of formally requisitioning, ordering, and confirming, and payment is arranged immediately upon receiving the merchandise or arranging delivery. At each purchase point a tracking system gets in motion to be sure the merchandise will be at the right pickup point, or consolidated, for delivery. A bill accumulates all the charges and is paid for. Six different forms are used in their system. Our system uses one form and electronically covers about 30 steps from requisitioning to auditing the system.

"The rejection references noted above will be described and responded to in the following sections, as they relate to the anticipated basis reported above.

Rejection Basis: Figure 4e

400

Hello: Joe Smith 1234567890 David Johnson
PTS: 1925 1400 Two Tandy Center
Fort Worth, TX 76102

Enter Item: _____ (OK)

Item No.	Description	Price+Points	Qty	Total
01-23456	MAGN RX4240VA	1300.00	1	1300.00 ■
			2	129.95 ■
			1	40.00 ■
			1	200.00 ■
			1	29.95 ■

Delivery Schedule

Available Delivery Dates:
() 1 Friday xx/xx/xx AM
() 2 Friday xx/xx/xx PM
() 3 Saturday xx/xx/xx AM

Customer Choice: () AM () PM
() M () T () W () TH () F () SA

Cost: xxxxxx.xx (OK)
()

Subtotal: 1699.90
Tax: 84.99
Points: 100

408

FIG. 4e

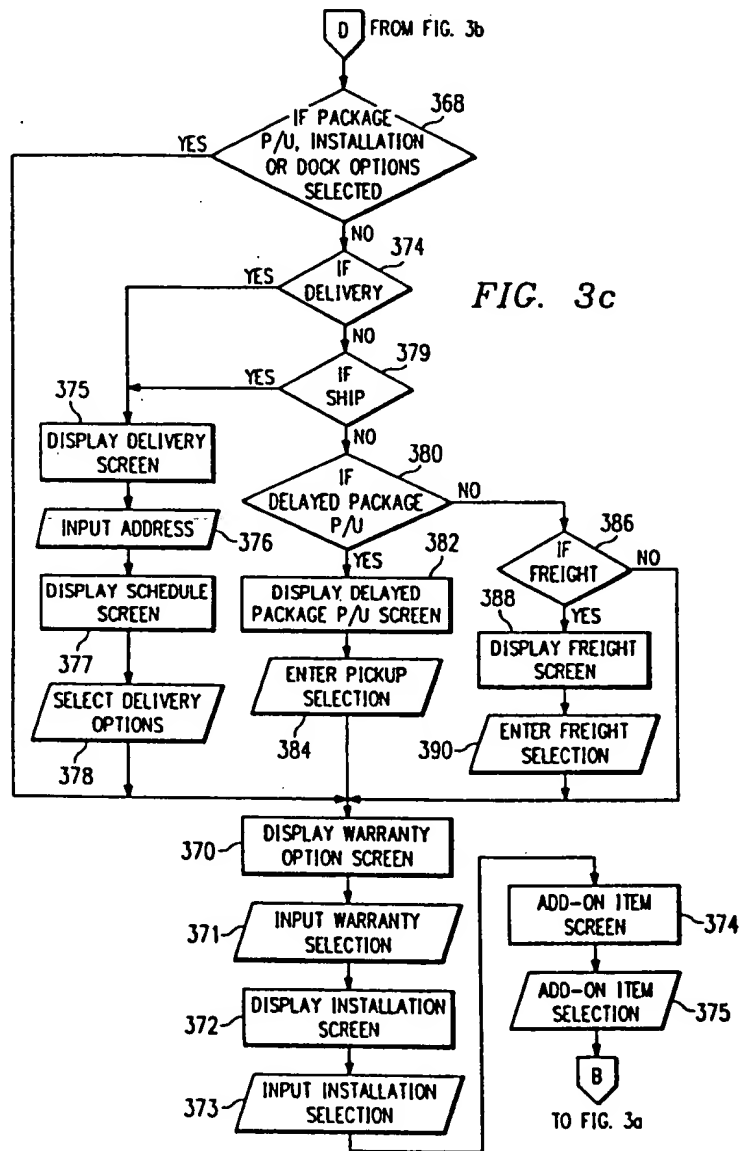
Response: This form doesn't explain or exhibit the tracking system

Rejection Basis: Col. 5. lines 62-67 (see below)

The computer 18 scans the customer's member card 66, then scans the product code label 68 associated with a particular piece of merchandise. A transaction record of the sale is created and forwarded to the controller 12. 65 Selection and delivery scheduling options are provided to the customer by the computer 18. The computer 18 is capable of retrieving credit balance information for the

Response The immediacy of the purchase, delivery and payment makes their sales tracking system completely unrelated to our One Page Purchasing System.

Rejection Basis: Fig.3C (see below)



Response: The chart shows the forms of delivery choices and actions. Our One Page document gives the vendor the exact form of delivery to be used.

changes, merchandise item file changes, inventory file 15
changes and master membership file updates. Data
flowing from the controller 12 to the main store proces-
sor 14 includes information relating to transaction re-
cords, picking ticket data, including reverse picking
tickets (on-line message), updates to delivery schedules 20
(on-line message), in-store member file changes and
negative check file changes. Data flowing from the
sales transaction computers 18 to the POS controller 12
include transaction data, information relating to special
orders, picking tickets and reverse picking tickets, de- 25
livery scheduling data and open-to-buy credit inquiry
requests. The data flow from the controller 12 to the
sales transaction computers 18 includes suspended
transaction data, membership data, including customer
name and points, item data (price, description, points, 30
add-ons, warranty), inventory data, negative check file
information, status messages for negative file actions,
delivery scheduling data, warranty data, delivery
charges and open-to-buy credit inquiry response infor-
mation. 35

Response: A listing of all this sales information doesn't serve the purchaser at all.

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In step 377, a delivery schedule pop-up window 408 (FIG. 4e) is displayed in the lower left hand corner of the item entry screen 400. The delivery schedule window 408 displays the first three available dates for delivery, as well as the cost for delivery. In step 378 the operator can select one of these dates and enter the customer's preferred day, with morning or afternoon delivery times. Entering the OK command will continue to return the next available set of possible delivery dates as long as a delivery date has not been selected for up to one month in the future. Once a date has been selected, entering OK saves the selected date, and execution returns to step 370 where the warranty pop-up window (not shown) is displayed in the lower left hand corner of the item entry screen 400.

If in step 374 it is determined that the delivery option has not been selected from the delivery method window 404, execution proceeds to step 379. In step 379, a determination is made whether the UPS shipping option has been selected from the delivery method window 404. If so, execution returns to step 375 and the delivery information window 406 is displayed. If in step 379 it is determined that the UPS option has not been selected, execution proceeds to step 380.

In step 380, a determination is made whether the delayed package pick-up option has been selected from the delivery method window 404. If so, execution proceeds to step 382. In step 382, the delayed package pick-up window 408 is displayed and execution proceeds to step 384. In step 384 the operator must enter a comment describing when the item will be picked up and execution returns to step 370.

If in step 380 it is determined that the delayed package pick-up option has not been selected, execution proceeds to step 386. In step 386, a determination is made whether the freight option has been selected from the delivery method pop-up window 404. If so, execution proceeds to step 388. In step 388, the freight delivery pop-up window (not shown) is displayed in the lower left hand corner of the item entry screen 400. The freight window displays the member address, phone number, and alternate phone number as the default delivery information, and execution proceeds to step 390. In step 390, the operator can strike through the displayed information and fill in information which is different than the default delivery information. Further, the operator must enter the shipping charges and item weight. Once the operator enters the OK command, execution returns to step 370 with the display of the warranty pop-up window (not shown). If in step 386 it is determined that the freight option is not selected from the delivery method pop-up window 404, execution proceeds to step 370.

Response: A detail description of the delivery choices and procedures. This is unrelated to our One Page Purchasing System.

Rejection Basis: Col. 17, lines 34-46)

In block 622, an order processing function is provided which is used to create daily truckload schedules for shipping of merchandise from the store 200. The schedules are generated with the aid of a commercially-available decision support tool referred to as Trucks. Trucks is an automated vehicle routing and scheduling software tool that provides a systematic approach to solving transportation issues. Trucks takes into account the constraints on routing and scheduling operations. The order processing function receives information from the controller 12 concerning allocated merchandise and uses this information in processing the delivery.

Response: This scheduling of delivery trucks is unrelated to our One Page System

Rejection Basis: Figure 6, Item 600

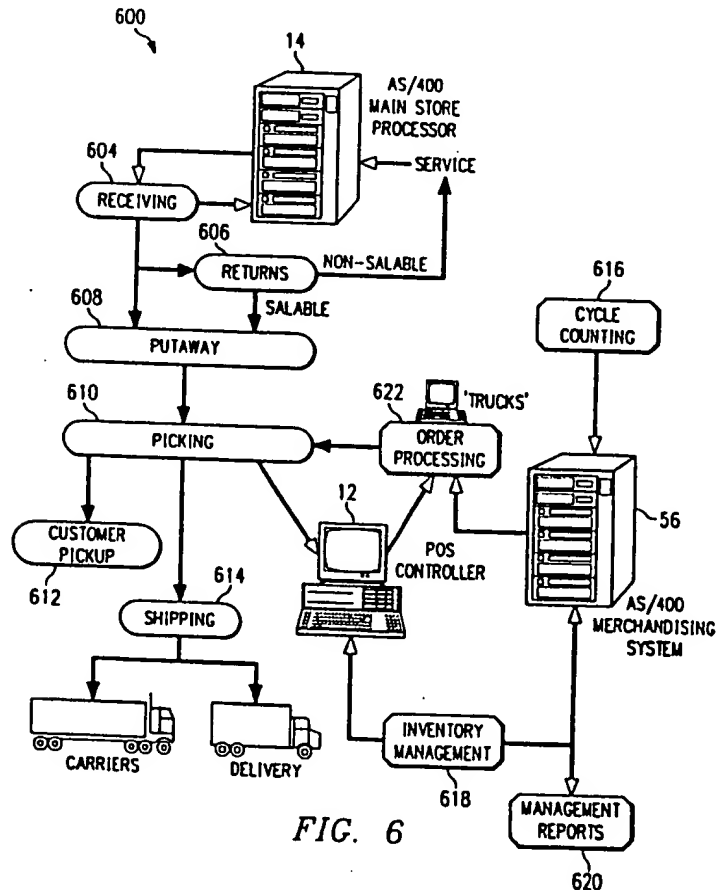


FIG. 6

Response: The chart shows the sales delivery components and sales management data, but it fails to show a basis for use in a purchasing system such as our One Page System.

CONCLUSION: None of these anticipations show comparable purchasing relationships with our system. Roach's sales system tracks movement of merchandise within a store-warehouse, and customer's charges for an "invoice" The One Page System tracks the action of people in successive purchasing steps from ordering to the payment.

12. CLAIM 7 ANTICIPATED BY BRUMLEY,

CLAIM 7

The shift in control provides the purchaser an opportunity to arrange a 30 day payment schedule with each vendor to balance all the vendor's payments to fit into the purchaser's cash flow position.

Basis Presented for Brumley's Anticipation

Rejected under 25 U.S.C. 102 (b)

Rejection Basis: Page 8, Lines 1-4

"Thus, purchasers are able to choose to pay for products via conventional credit cards or on a net 30-day basis, when authorized by the merchant to purchase products, in that fashion."

My Response: Brumley's description of paying in net 30 days follows a common practice of the purchaser already getting this privilege. The "Net-30 days usually means 30 days from the invoice date, and is sometimes interpreted as the month following the invoice date.. However my system calls for a more precise procedure to work with the cash flow patterns of the purchaser and the repetition of large purchases from specific vendors. My claim relates to scheduling the same date of payment each month to individual vendors, which would not normally be 30 days from the date of receiving the merchandise, but a settlement each month on the predetermined same date. This is not a conventional system and not believed to be Brumley's intent. My claim does not cite "net" 30 days

This system is made possible by the intervention of my One Page System which no longer permits use or acceptance of vendor's invoices..

Claim 9: Although the system is basically designed for an in-house installation, the purchasing organization could outsource any or all of the program to other organizations.

Basis Presented for Geer's Anticipation

Rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b)

"Geer teaches organizations that outsource any or all of their programs to other organizations (column 5, lines 3-7)

5

an illustration of the present invention whereby multiple smaller institutions that do not process the volume of instruments as a check payee 1, such as in Example 1, or larger institutions that typically outsource certain functions, may achieve the advantages of the invention through their utilization of a bank of second deposit, collecting and clearing bank 10.

Response: Outsourcing is widely recognized in the commercial world as a method for one organization to retain another unrelated organization to contractually perform functions which normally would be performed by the retainer organization, for cost savings or other benefits. It is not a patentable process per se, but can be part of a process, and patented as an application made part of that process.

Geer's invention serves organizations having large volumes of checks received as a payee, such as a utility company, in processing these checks through a series of bank services and systems, - to simplify and expedite the process. His reference to outsourcing applies specifically to his invention and would not apply to my One Page System. My claim would apply only to my specific application for use with a One Page Purchasing System.

14 & 15 CLAIMS 10-14 REJECTED AS UNPATENTABLE OVER PETERS ET AL

Obviousness Rejections 35 U.S.C. 103 (a)

"A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described or disclosed as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made."

Basis Presented for Peter's Patent Position:

Peters teaches a system that lends itself to easily make the necessary accounting entries electronically, in which worksheets or spreadsheets are made part of the system, available for keeping track of order data, account (s) to be charged for the items purchased (column 37, lines 7-10 and other data variables and for regular updating, and stored in stored data banks available for reference and auditing (column 6, line 33, lines 38-44. Peters also teaches management control reports generated and offered as possible assists to management (column 37, lines 7-19).

Peters does not teach worksheets traveling with the document.

Rejection Reference ;Col. 37, lines 7-10 (see below)

- c. generating types of reports from such user account management data, the types of reports further comprising: reports for technical personnel, reports for warehouse personnel, reports for accounting/collection 10

Response: Peters injects a reference to management data to cover the world of management information in four lines. Books are written on the subject. My consulting experience with many years performing management audits have revealed the tremendous extent to which managements have not been aware of the "obvious" in business information needs, as introduced by four lines. My claims cited here relate to specific documentation, using forms and details of application which are not found in

Peters patent. In addition, his claims apply primarily to a billing system for communications services opposed to my use of a One Page Purchasing system to perform all the functions of purchasing system, Our systems are not comparable in comparing the needs, applications and benefits of the respective forms of information.

Reference Basis: Column column 6, line 3.

6

other communications based on the data in the databases, and performs other functions such as e-mail, word processing, and spreadsheets.

Response: This reference categorically mentions the use of software to produce reports and other communications, along with other services. It's hardly the basis for supporting the "obvious" to replace my system.

Reference Basis: Col. 33, Lines 38-44 (see below)

18. The method in claim 13 where the ancillary functions include at least one of: SAM reports, electronic mail, word processing, a phone utility, a personal computer function, 40 office automation software packages, and spread sheets.

19. The method in claim 13 where the data is stored in a network of computers installed in offices of cable television systems, with separate databases maintained for each office.

Response: The ancillary needs of these two different types of businesses may be entirely different, therefore we cannot impose the communications business on the purchasing functions, although we can assume that these services are available in most businesses today

Reference Basis: Col. 37, lines 7-19 (see below)

37

functions include generation of bills, generation of disconnect notices, payment processing, and related functions, and

(iii) the supervisor functions and reports further comprise: accounting functions, functions to manage 5 users, reports, and miscellaneous functions,

c. generating types of reports from such user account management data, the types of reports further comprising: reports for technical personnel, reports for warehouse personnel, reports for accounting/collection 10 personnel, reports for work order control personnel, reports for dispatchers, and reports for pay-per-view activity, and

d. performing ancillary functions on the user account management data, the ancillary functions further comprising: SAM reports, electronic mail, word processing, 15 a phone utility, a personal computer function, office automation software packages, and spread sheets.

Response: Refers to a compendium of information directions and performing numerous ancillary functions, (in 13 lines) These are not substantial references to a capacity for discerning the "obvious".

CONCLUSION: I find no references to substantiate the rejections of my claims 10-14-14.

15. CLAIMS 10-14 REJECTED AS UNPATENTABLE OVER PETERS

IN VIEW OF KUZMA

Obviousness Rejection by Kuzma – 35 U.S.C. 103 (a)

Kuzma's Patent – His patent describes several methods of transmitting Email with and without attachments, related to the cost of storage of the components at different node positions, resolving into his proposed system, which is of technical substance.

Basis Presented for Kuzma's Position

Kuzma teaches worksheets traveling or being transmitted with the document (col. 1 lines 35-40, column 13, lines 40-42, 54-57). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Peters to include transmission of worksheets or spreadsheets as taught by Kuzma, in order to enable the information to be distributed inexpensively, in a timely fashion, and efficiently to purchasers.

Rejection Reference: Col. 1, lines 35-40 (see below)

or utilized separately from the e-mail message itself. 35

Such attachments are typically transmitted via the transmission medium of the network "by value," which means that the actual data of a given attachment is transmitted along with the primary e-mail message (or an attachment may be transmitted independently, with no accompanying 40 e-mail message). One problem with current methods of transmitting e-mail attachments is that because of it

Response: The technical features of whether an Email attachment, such as spreadsheets is stored at one Email node location or another is not of real consequence for the use of my system, unless it creates delays in transmission, which

is doubtful. My One Page System is claimed on the basis of what it will do, with sufficient evidence that it can be done, and not on details of such things as the transmittal system, which at the time of installation might have newer options. I have purposely avoided describing computer software and technology to be used because they are readily available, and subject to new better choices available, which could help make my system obsolete, if I'm locked in

Rejection Basis: Col. 13, lines 40-42, 54-57 (see below)

message pointer may be either simple or very complex For 40
example, it may be as simple as a particular attachment file
which may be retrieved, such as a text file or spreadsheet.
Alternatively, the URL may instead be a pointer to an HTML

subject line or into a longer text e-mail ...
recipient's mail page. Then, instead of reading the text and
then opening the attached spreadsheet (with some concomi- 55
tant loss of context), as in current e-mail systems, the user
could click on the reference itself while reading the message,
thus improving the textual reference.

Referring now to FIG. 7, there is shown a flow chart 700
illustrating the method of operation of e-mail system 600 of 60
FIG. 6. As illustrated in step 701, sender 612 browses via a
web browser on a home page or other web site of recipient
622 that is visible to Internet 601. Upon the sender's
selecting a "send e-mail" option (step 701) available on
recipient 622's home page, WWW HTTP server 620 pro- 65
vides HTML page 625 (step 702). The sender 612 at this
point has already stored an attachment 611 locally (step 703)

Response: Both sections deal with detailed application selections, with an example of a spreadsheet. This is not relevant to our claim.

CONCLUSION: Neither reference provides supportive rejection material.

YOUR CONCLUSION

I'm very sorry I wasn't more helpful in researching the prior art more completely, and know a little about the greater burden this placed on your job. I can only give you a few reasons why this happened.

The attached article which I believe to be responsible reporting led me to conclude that there wasn't much if any prior patent source on a one page system. Nor have I found any such reference in the technical magazines which flood me.

I secured the opinion of Plante & Moran, a highly respected large accounting and management consulting firm, . They reported that" A securely transferred single document could substantially reduce the costs and time related to data validation for buyers"

I haven't found any references from your locations on the Internet,

Having relocated from the New York City area and Denver, to Atwood, Kansas, I no longer have ready access to your branch libraries.

Then as indicated earlier, at 87 I'm not very mobile, and I'm working hard to beat a Cancer problem, with Chemo, which consumes a lot of time.

But I do apologize and want you to know that after completing this response, I am more aware of your strenuous job, and appreciate your assistance in a very important part of our ongoing economy.

My background includes an MS Degree in Accounting from Columbia University, public accounting experience with Price Waterhouse, Assistant to the President of GAF Corp. Manager of Management Information at W. R. Grace & Co. Planning Officer of the Fairfield County Trust Co. and many years as a management consultant with Hynes & Co. Presently I'm semi-retired, devoting my time to developing this system.